

conduct which the western world as well as the Third World considers acceptable.

The Ottawa Summit should provide western leaders with the opportunity to bring their views on this subject into harmony. This is a concern which should certainly be foremost on the agenda of any meeting on international affairs.

The prospect of a renewed arms race, at a time when millions of people are dying of starvation, is a real scandal. If we decided to divert, for two weeks, the money we are spending for military purposes, we could provide safe water and a basic health care system for all the peoples of the world.

However, people feel the need for even more protection, and the logic of greater defence spending in the face of Soviet arms spending is compelling. The crisis this provokes needs to be managed by western countries among themselves and, eventually, in consultation with the Soviet Union.

The SALT talks must resume, sooner rather than later, once a process of mutual confidence-building has permitted the effective participation of both parties. Ending the nuclear arms race presents awesome difficulties. But the Government of Canada continues to believe that, however daunting these difficulties and however unpromising the immediate prospects for progress, the super-powers must be urged to reflect with all possible seriousness on the consequences of embarking on yet another round of nuclear arms escalation.

The government continues firmly in the view that the nuclear arms race must be arrested and reversed, and a new balance of security sought at progressively lower levels of armaments. The "strategy of suffocation" I put forward at the first Special Session of the United Nations on Disarmament in 1978 remains valid for this purpose. Nothing has happened in the intervening period to lessen the strength of my conviction on this point.

On nuclear safeguards, Canadian policy, last set out in 1974 and 1976, has set high standards. Yet it is being implemented in a pragmatic manner that respects the sovereignty and sensitivities of our partners in nuclear co-operation. We will continue to develop